

Louisiana Bridge Association
Board of Directors Meeting
March 8, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Carolyn Dubois, President. Present were Jim Thornton, Steve Romig, Mary LeBlanc, Lowen, Theresa Federico, Diana Powell, Ellen Lappa, Jackie Madden, Vicki Willis, Suzanne Cliffe, and Club Manager, Sherrie Goodman.

Carolyn welcomed everyone and then called for the minutes of the January meeting to be accepted as previously distributed.

Steve Romig presented the financial statement which had been distributed prior to the meeting. Because of paying the insurance for the year, the February expenses were greater than the income. The insurance cost has increased approximately \$1500 over the previous year. He said that he had looked at the cost increase and spoke with insurance representatives and this is what is happening with all insurance. He doesn't feel that we could save anything significant by changing insurance companies. Steve also said that at the current income levels the club will still be on track to make about the same money this year as last.

The By-laws meeting to look at the proposed changes will be scheduled for Monday, March 22, at 4:15 p.m.

Sherrie reported that the virtual club Swiss games that have started on Sunday afternoons are going well. The Thursday night Swiss game that was held previously was successful so we will try to hold one once a month. The Sunday Swiss games are divided into open games and limited masterpoint games. There will be a Pro Am mentoring game on Saturday, March 13. The 99'er are invited to play in the southeastern pool "Nite Club" which averages 44 tables and our club will get \$3.00 for each of our players that participates in these games. They receive a lesson before the game and have a Q & A after the game with some ACBL teachers.

Gulfport has now joined our virtual club.

There is a Gold week scheduled for the end of March allowing players a chance to earn gold points. The 0-20 games are going well. The 99'er games are now in a southeastern pool that has about 44 tables and our club will get \$3.00 for each of our players that participates in these games.

Old Business

The question of the date to pay directors in the virtual club was revisited and it was decided that they will be paid at the beginning of every month as soon as Sherrie sends the information to Mary LeBlanc.

Jackie Madden reported that JaniKing has been in touch and wants to start coming in twice a month to empty trash and do a light cleaning. Since no one is going into the club at this time, it was decided that this is unnecessary. Jackie would like to begin looking at what will be necessary when it is decided to reopen the club. Steve, Lowen, and Theresa all volunteered to work with Jackie on a committee to begin looking at reopening strategies when it is time. Jackie said that Susan Beobay has also volunteered to work on this committee. Carolyn asked that Board Members submit ideas as to reopening to Jackie and the committee. She also asked that something be put on the website in the form of a survey asking members if and when they will consider returning to the club. She also asked if Sherrie could send an e-mail blast to the members asking this. It will also be necessary to determine which directors will be willing to come to the club and direct in person. Jackie will meet with the committee and report to the Board next month.

Carolyn brought up the subject of the safe we use at the club to deposit the game proceeds and who has the combination to it. She was asking if we should have the lock or combination changed since so many people have had access to it over the years. Sherrie suggested that that might not be necessary since when the club reopens, we will probably not be using cash to pay for our games. Sherrie reported that other clubs are going cashless for this reason. The Reopening Committee will also discuss the possibilities of the safest way for people to pay for their games that will protect both directors and players.

Vicki reported that the District is considering By-Laws changes but hasn't progressed at this time.

We will try and hold our Memorial Game in October or November.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 12, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Suzanne Cliffe
Recording Secretary